

# Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor



WIndiana – Common Ground Panel  
David Stippler, Utility Consumer Counselor  
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# What is the OUCC?

## Its Mission and Responsibilities

- ▶ OUCC Mission
  - To represent all Indiana Consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education and creative problem solving.
- ▶ Demonstrating value for all Indiana ratepayers.
- ▶ IC 8-1-1.1 – 5.1
  - ▶ “(e) In all proceedings before the commission. ...and in a court in which the consumer counselor shall appear, the consumer counselor shall have charge of the interests of the ratepayers and consumers of the utility...”

# What is the OUCC?

## Organization and Operational Structure

- ▶ Technical, Legal, Administrative Divisions
  - ▶ Professional Experts
  - ▶ Accountants
  - ▶ Attorneys
  - ▶ Economists
  - ▶ Engineers
- ▶ Expert Witness Consultant Services

# Regulatory Environment for Renewable Energy Technologies

- ▶ Open, Expeditious and Collaborative
  - ▶ Examples: Meetings with WinWinD and IEDC, Horizon Wind, E.On as well as the Fowler/Benton County developers.
- ▶ For new renewable technology projects
  - ▶ OUCC performs up-front research early in procedural schedule, meets with Petitioner.
- ▶ Typical schedule between petitioner testimony and OUCC testimony -- 3 weeks.



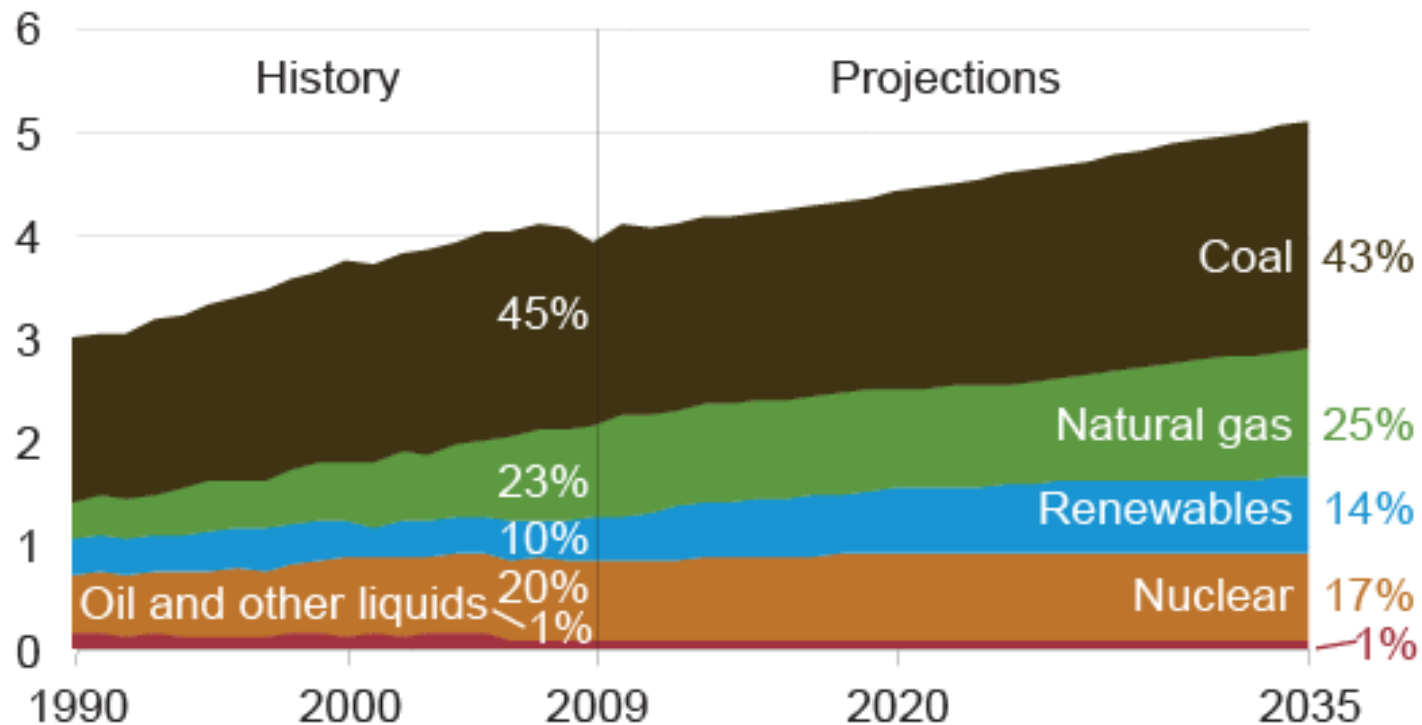
# Renewable Energy Advantages for Indiana Ratepayers

- ▶ Hedge against increased energy costs due to EPA mandates.
- ▶ May replace a portion of Indiana fossil-fuel burning generation.
- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Senate Enrolled Act No. 251

# Projected Electricity Generation Fuel Mix

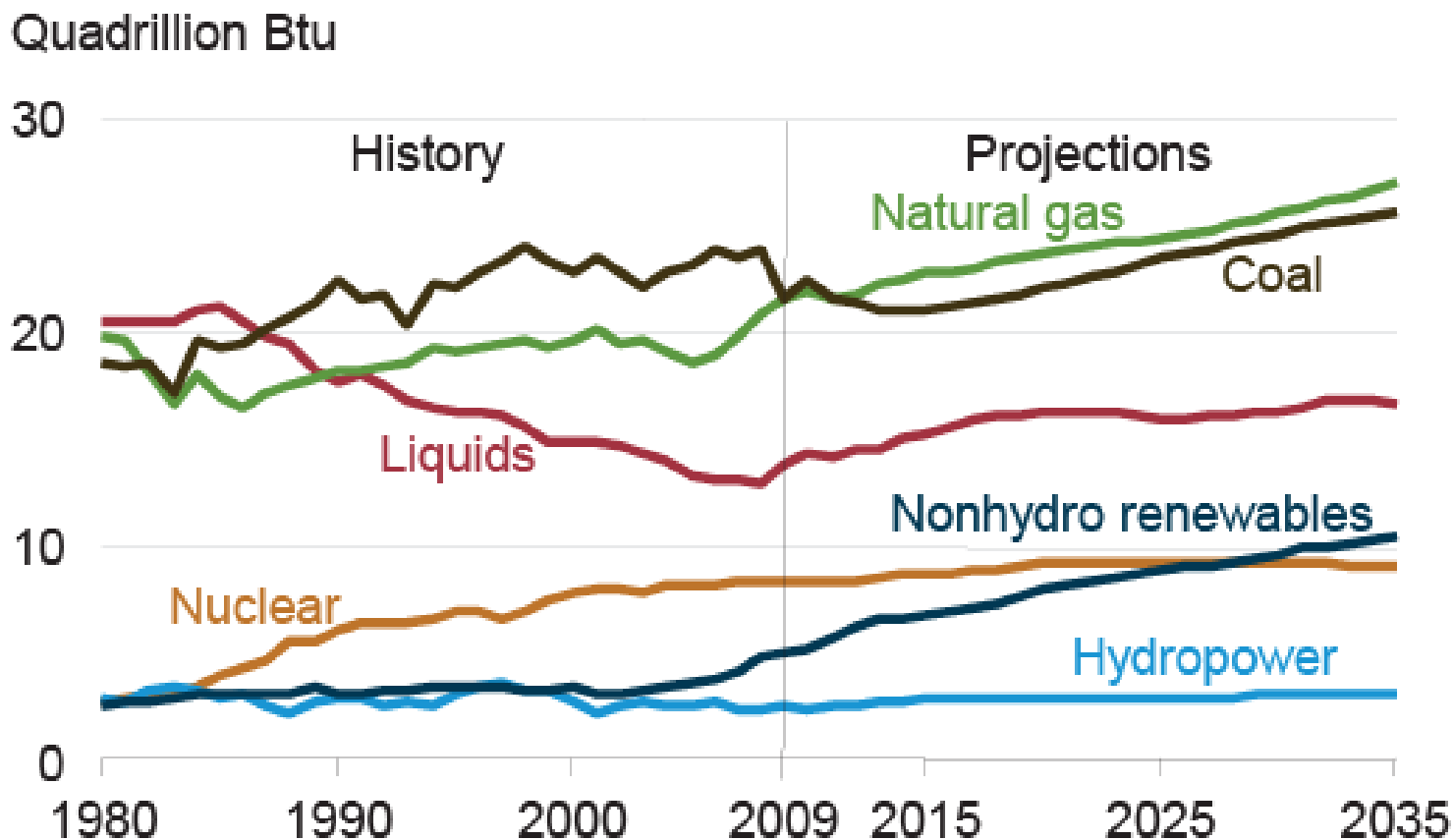
Source: EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2011

Net electricity generation (trillion kilowatthours per year)



# Energy Production by Fuel 1980 - 2035

Source: EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2011



# Least Cost Generation vs. More Costly Renewables

- ▶ Utilities should be concerned with both least cost and the introduction of renewables.
- ▶ We're seeing a decreasing cost as renewable energy resources continue to be developed
- ▶ OUCC continues to pursue achieving low energy costs for customers, while also factoring technology advances and environmental implications into its decision making.



# Conclusion

- ▶ OUCC is a strong supporter of renewable energy initiatives, collaboratively engaged with industry players in forward-looking activity to achieve clean energy goals, while monitoring trends and the ongoing development of emerging technologies.



# Contact Information

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